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The Pampa News

Vol. 91 No. 290 • Pampa, Texas
50¢ Daily • Sunday #1

House passes oil severance tax relief

In a move that will affect almost all of the oil producers in the Texas panhandle the Texas House approved a \$45 million tax relief package Wednesday for small oil and gas producers suffering from slumping prices.

Rep Warren Chisum, R-Pampa, who co-sponsored the bill told *The Pampa News* today, "Virtually every oil producer in our area is affected and so it increases their revenue by 4.6 percent."

"This is not going to solve the oil and gas crisis, but it will help school districts and save jobs," said Rep. Tom Craddick, R-Midland, who also co-sponsored the bill.

The bill would exempt small oil producers from the state severance tax when the monthly average closing price of West Texas Intermediate crude oil is below \$15 per barrel, as recorded on the New York Mercantile Exchange for three consecutive months.

Natural gas producers would be

Bill Arrington of the Arrington Companies in Pampa doesn't think the relief will be enough to help the industry significantly. He said what is needed is a federal tariff on foreign oil that would bring the price of oil up closer to the \$20 mark, rather than the \$14.50 mark where it finished Wednesday.

exempt when prices fall below \$1.80 per thousand cubic feet.

The current severance tax on oil is 4.6 percent of the value at the wellhead and 7.5 percent on natural gas.

Wells producing 15 barrels or less each day would be exempt, covering 83 percent of Texas wells and about 38 percent of production. It would apply until the end of the current budget year, Aug. 31.

Chisum said the bill is less likely to do much good for the gas producer since the current price of natural gas is above the

cutoff price.

Jack Curtis, of Curtis Well Service of Pampa said, "Any relief is great, we can use it." He said that while the relief would be a help it might not be enough to save any producer that is in trouble.

Pampa oil man Leonard Hudson agreed saying, "It's not a problem solver. It's going to help but I'm not sure it's going to make a big impact, but it will defiantly help."

Bill Arrington of the Arrington Companies in Pampa doesn't think the

relief will be enough to help the industry significantly. He said what is needed is a federal tariff on foreign oil that would bring the price of oil up closer to the \$20 mark, rather than the \$14.50 mark in finished at Wednesday.

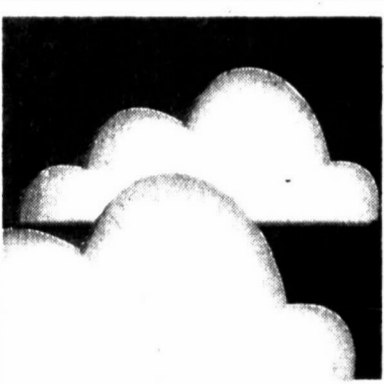
The House gave the measure preliminary approval by a 138-8 vote. Pending a final vote Thursday, the temporary measure will head to Gov. George W. Bush.

"I thank House members for their overwhelming support of legislation that will bring relief to many small oil producers and oil workers who are hurting during this crisis," said Bush, who had declared the measure an emergency.

"I hope this tax relief will help small operators continue production and the jobs and economic activity that go with it."

The Senate easily passed the measure last month. But it ran into trouble in the House when some Democrats linked their

(See OIL, Page 2)



High today 53
Low tonight mid 30s
For weather details see Page 2.

PAMPA — Lovett Memorial Library staff, city workers and community volunteers will begin moving books and equipment to the renovated library on N. Houston Street beginning this Saturday, March 13.

During the move, the library will be closed until Monday, April 12.

No books will be due during this time and no fines will be charged, according to head librarian Anne Stobbe.

The library will continue to make IRS forms available to the public at Baker School for the next several weeks. Forms will be available Mon. - Fri. from 9 to 5 p.m. at the main entrance.

More volunteers, however, will be needed for the move, she said.

"If you can volunteer, please call the library at 669-5780 or call Susan Dunigan at 669-9474," said Stobbe.

AUSTIN (AP) — There were no winners in the weekly Wednesday Lotto Texas drawing where the numbers drawn by the Texas Lottery were: 2-16-19-42-47-49. The estimated Saturday night Lotto Texas jackpot is \$7 million.

- Hazel Alexander, 84, homemaker.
- Gary Gene "Buck" Buchanan, 42, construction, oil field worker.
- Murlene Edwards, 77, former teacher's aide, volunteer.
- Ella Louise Gunter, 72, homemaker.
- Nellie Ray Harvey, 69, homemaker.
- Ruby Latta, 76, former bookkeeper.
- Lois Irene Risner, 87, homemaker.

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Storm cleanup, damage repair costs hit \$26,000

By KATE B. DICKSON
Associate Publisher

Cleaning up after January's ice storm will cost city taxpayers \$21,500 in overtime pay and another \$4,500 to replace a traffic signal that was blown.

That was the report to city commissioners this week from financial director John Horst who said the costs for limb removal and equipment would have been higher without the help of Jordan Unit inmates. He expects to have figures soon that will reveal just how much value the inmate help was.

In addition, Horst told commissioners a thank you is in order to Curt Farmer of Wasteco, Inc., who donated hauling services to the city that carried a value of \$3,875.

City manager Bob Eskridge offered praise to street department superintendent Kimberly

Lincycumb for the job that was done on limb removal.

Lincycumb, whose department joined others in the cleanup, said "good teamwork" resulted in the job getting done as quickly as it did.

Two complete collection passes were made through Pampa to pick up the limbs and citizens who need another pickup are asked to call the Action Center at 669-5888 to arrange one.

Commissioners, during their meeting after the work session Tuesday, unanimously passed a budget amendment to transfer the weather-related funds from the contingency account into the street department budget.

It is expected there will be what Eskridge called "a small expense" related to the burning of the limbs, something that should take place this summer.

Teens arrested for burglaries of house, vehicles in Booker

LIPSCOMB — A Kansas teenager was free on bond today after being arrested in Booker in connection with the burglary of vehicles and a house.

Bernardo Pinon III, 17, of Garden City, Kan., was free on bonds totaling \$5,500 today after being charged with four counts of burglary of a motor vehicle and one count of burglary of a habitation. Judge Frank Elmore set bond for Pinon at \$1,000 on each count of the vehicle burglaries and \$1,500 on the burglary of the a habitation charge.

Four juveniles also arrested in the case have been turned over to juvenile authorities along with a runaway from Garden City. Officers said the juvenile runaway did not appear to be involved with

the burglaries.

Lipscomb County Sheriff James Robertson credited Deputies Virgie Morris and Matt Thornton with the breaking up of an interstate burglary ring with their quick work.

Officers got a call about 9 a.m. Sunday from a Lipscomb County citizen concerning the burglaries. By noon Sunday, the two deputies had arrested two of the teenagers. By Monday afternoon, they had arrested the other three and recovered most of the stereo equipment and tools that had been reported stolen.

"We got a majority of all of it back," Thornton said.

Good drivers to get rewards

Starting next week if you see flashing lights in your rear view mirror, it may be a good thing as long as you're a good driver.

Starting Monday, the Pampa Police Department officers, in cooperation with Pizza Hut Delivery, will make traffic stops for driving safely and courteously. Good drivers will be issued a safe driving award good for one medium, one topping pizza.

The program is designed to encourage and reward safe and courteous driving in the city. Chief

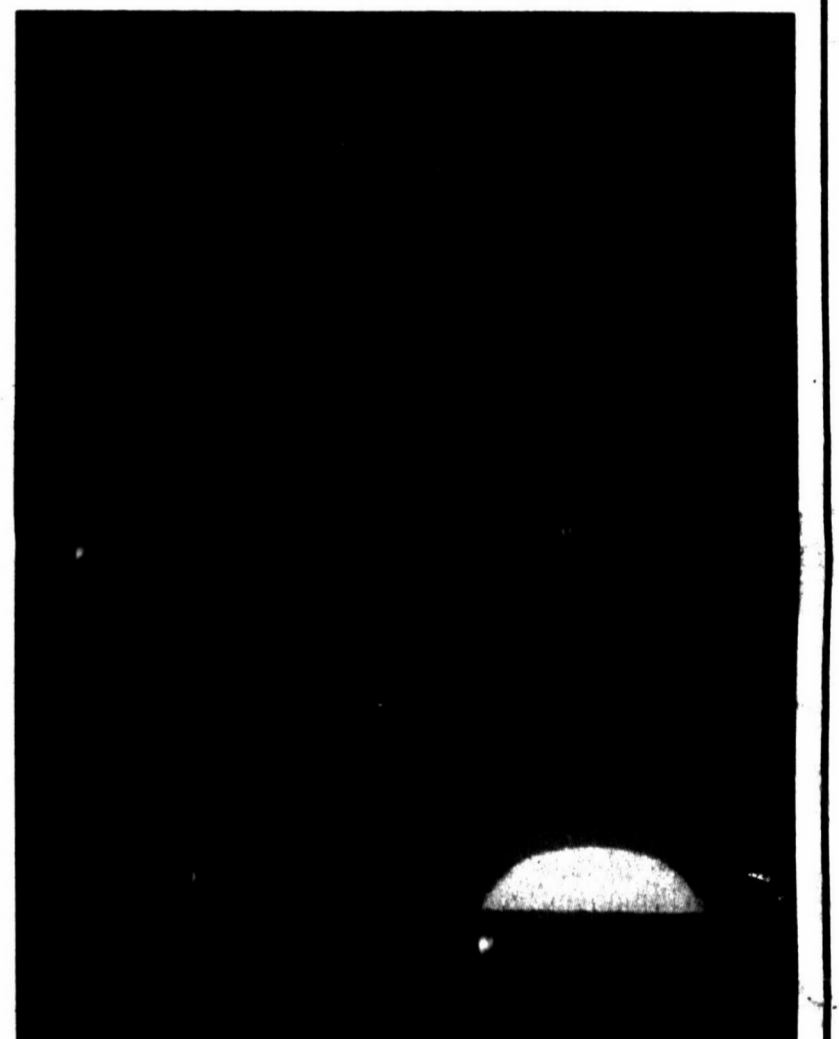
of Police Charlie Morris said the department expected to award about 20 "Safe Driver Awards" each month, during the first few months of the program. Morris said he likes the program particularly because it is a positive program that awards good driving habits.

"We hope that those who are stopped to receive a Safe Driving Award will be tolerant of any inconvenience and take a moment to enjoy the praise," Morris said.

PHS senior, John Hervey, was selected to show his pastel drawing, "Dual Delusions," at the recent Texas Panhandle Invitational Student Art Show at Westgate Mall in Amarillo. The art show is at West Texas A & M University from March 11 until March 26. Hervey completed the piece while enrolled under teacher June Dirickson in Art III.



Panhandle sunrise ...



According to seafarers, red sky in morning, sailors take warning. The dawn east of Pampa earlier this week burned bright red until the sun broke the horizon. It is perhaps a warning of a change in the weather for the weekend when the weatherman is predicting the return of snow and ice. Or it may be the warning of spring winds which damaged this windmill in Carson County.

Knights happy with dinner turnout

The Grand Knight of the Knights of Columbus termed Sunday's Polish sausage festival a success.

"We have some sausage left," said Neal Hoelting, "but we served about a ton. Everything went fine."

He said the crowd was about the same size as last year's. Hoelting said the Knights of Columbus served about 800 people Sunday during their annual Polish sausage dinner.

"We had about 500 dine in and about 300 take out," he said.

He estimated that the organization served about 2,000 pounds of the Polish sausage made for

them by Clint and Sons Custom Processing.

This year's Polish sausage festival also served as the grand opening of the Knights of Columbus new hall at 318 N. Cuyler.

Hoelting said they have been working for the last six months to complete the remodeling of the facility.

"We still have some small things to do, especially up front," he said, "but I think we're going to take a break for a while."

The new facility houses meeting rooms and a kitchen as well as a large hall that is available for civic activities, he said.

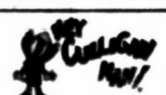
Man's condition upgraded

The condition of Paul Gerik, 42, 519 N. Frost, who was airlifted to Northwest Texas Hospital in Amarillo after a rollover Tuesday night, has been upgraded today to satisfactory.

Gerik was a passenger in a pick-up truck driven by Gary Buchanan, 42, of 1804 Lynn, who was killed in the crash at the intersection of Gwendolyn and Price Road. His obituary is on Page 2.

Troopers are continuing to investigate.

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Daily Record

Services tomorrow

EDWARDS, Murlene — 2 p.m., Wood-Dunning Funeral Home Colonial Chapel, Plainview.
GUNTER, Ella Louise — 11 a.m., First Baptist Church Family Life Chapel, Plainview.
LATTA, Ruby — 11 a.m., First Baptist Church, Groom.

Obituaries

HAZEL ALEXANDER
 Hazel Alexander, 84, of Pampa, died Tuesday, March 9, 1999, at Lubbock. Graveside services will be at 2 p.m. Saturday in Memory Gardens Cemetery with the Rev. Jim Fox, pastor of Hillcrest Baptist Church of Amarillo, officiating. Burial will be under the direction of Carmichael-Whitley Funeral Directors of Pampa.

Mrs. Alexander was born July 8, 1914, in Knox County. She graduated from O'Brien High School. She married J.J. Alexander on Sept. 23, 1933, at Knox City; he died in 1985. She had been a Pampa resident since 1946, moving from Gorman. She was a homemaker and a member of Hobart Baptist Church.

She was preceded in death by a son, Jack Alexander, in 1988.

Survivors include two grandsons, Chris Alexander of Lubbock and Mark Alexander of Irving; and two great-grandsons, Jeffrey Alexander and Joey Alexander, both of Lubbock.

The family requests memorials be to Parkinson's Disease Association or St. Ann's Nursing Home in Panhandle.

GARY GENE 'BUCK' BUCHANAN
 Gary Gene "Buck" Buchanan, 42, of Pampa, died Tuesday, March 9, 1999. Graveside services will be at 11 a.m. Saturday in Memory Gardens Cemetery with the Rev. Dale Moreland, associate pastor of First Baptist Church, officiating. Burial will be under the direction of Carmichael-Whitley Funeral Directors of Pampa.

Mr. Buchanan was born Jan. 3, 1957, at Dallas. He had been a lifelong Pampa resident, graduating from Pampa High School. He was a construction worker, for many businesses in the Pampa area and worked in the oil field. He was a Baptist.

He was preceded in death by his father in 1967. Survivors include his mother and stepfather, Maxine and Richard Morgan of Pampa; a brother, Steve Buchanan of Amarillo; and two stepbrothers, Steve Morgan of New Braunfels and Tim Morgan of Aurora, Colo.

The family requests memorials be to Pampa Senior Citizens Center.

MURLENE EDWARDS
 PLAINVIEW — Murlene Edwards, 77, mother of a Pampa resident, died Tuesday, March 9, 1999. Services will be at 2 p.m. Friday in Wood-Dunning Funeral Home Colonial Chapel with Dr. Travis Hart, of First Baptist Church, officiating. Burial will be in Plainview Memorial Park.

Mrs. Edwards was born Sept. 9, 1921, at Hillsboro. She married Garland Edwards on June 6, 1940, at Plainview; he died Jan. 5, 1987. She had been a Plainview resident since 1939, moving from Portales, N.M. She was employed as a teacher's aide with Plainview ISD for 20 years and was active with Meals on Wheels.

She belonged to First Baptist Church. She was preceded in death by a son and by a brother.

Survivors include two daughters, Linda Starnes of Pampa and Shirley Leach of Canyon; a son, Jerry Edwards of Lubbock; a sister, Ruth Sherrod of Portales; four grandchildren; and four great-grandchildren.

The family requests memorials be to American Cancer Society.
ELLA LOUISE GUNTER
 PLAINVIEW — Ella Louise Gunter, 72, a former Groom resident, died Tuesday, March 9, 1999. Services will be at 11 a.m. Friday in First Baptist Church Family Life Chapel with Dr. Travis Hart, pastor, officiating. Burial will be in Plainview Cemetery under the direction of Wood-Dunning Funeral Home.

Mrs. Gunter was born in Carson County. She married W.C. Gunter in 1947 at Amarillo; he died in 1995. She moved to Olton in 1952 from Groom. She had been a Plainview resident since 1970, moving from Olton.

She belonged to First Baptist Church and Travel Study Club and was a member and past president of Women's Missionary Union and Texas Historical Society. She wrote "Patch-Work," a play which was performed by Wayland Baptist University.

Survivors include two daughters, Gayle Southern of Phoenix, Ariz., and Lucy Roth of Austin; a son, Carey C. Gunter of Austin; her mother, Minnie Sibold of Colorado Springs, Colo.; two brothers, Keith Crawford of Channing and Alvin Crawford of Kansas; eight grandchildren; and a great-grandchild.

NELLIE RAY HARVEY
 BOONEVILLE, Ark. — Nellie Ray Harvey, 69, died Tuesday, March 9, 1999, at Greenwood, Ark. Graveside services were to be at 2 p.m. today in Oak Hill Cemetery. Burial will be under the direction of Roberts Funeral Home of Booneville.

Mrs. Harvey belonged to Liberty Missionary Baptist Church in Greenwood.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Ray Harvey.

Survivors include two daughters, Janet Holz of Evansville, Ind., and Sue Graham of Lavaca, Ark.; four sons, Don Keyes and Dennis Keyes, both of Greenwood, Tony Keyes of Canadian, Okla., and Damon Keyes of Pocola, Okla.; five sisters, Nova Wilkins of Slaton, Etta Mae Scott, Dorothy Scantling and Lois Godfrey, all of Booneville, and Faye Deeds of Magazine, Ark.; a brother, Eugene Smith of Colorado; 14 grandchildren; and seven great-grandchildren.

RUBY LATTA
 GROOM — Ruby Latta, 76, died Tuesday, March 9, 1999. Services will be at 11 a.m. Friday in First Baptist Church with the Rev. Byron Williamson, of the church, officiating. Burial will be in Groom Cemetery under the direction of Schooler Funeral Home of Amarillo.

Mrs. Latta was born in Carson County. She was raised in the Groom area. She married Stanley Latta in 1960 in Potter County; he died in 1992. The couple farmed and ranched near Groom. She was a bookkeeper for Mobile Oil Company for many years and belonged to First Baptist Church. Survivors include two great-nieces and cousins. Viewing will be today at the funeral home and from 9 a.m. until service time Friday at the church. The family requests memorials be to Crown of Texas Hospice, 1000 S. Jefferson, Amarillo, TX 79101; or to Groom Ambulance Service.

LOIS IRENE RISNER
 WHEELER — Lois Irene Risner, 87, died Tuesday, March 9, 1999, at North West Texas Hospital in Amarillo. Services were to be at 2 p.m. today in First Baptist Church with the Rev. Robert Fields, pastor at Southeast Baptist Church of Amarillo, officiating. Burial will be in Wheeler Cemetery under the direction of Wright Funeral Home of Wheeler.

Mrs. Risner was born Aug. 27, 1911, at Caddo Gap, Ark., to John E. and Ada Peters Jones. She married Frank Risner on Dec. 25, 1932, at Mountainburg, Ark.; he died in 1985. The couple moved to Wheeler from Arkansas shortly after marriage. She was a homemaker and a member of Landmark Missionary Baptist Church.

She was preceded in death by a son, Ernest Dale Risner, in 1957.

Survivors include a daughter, Donna Cunningham of Amarillo; two sons, Bobby Risner of Wheeler and Charles Risner of Perryton; a sister, Maxine Mills of Hampton, Va.; a brother, Gilbert Jones of Tulsa, Okla.; seven grandchildren; and 12 great-grandchildren.

The family requests memorials be to Crown of Texas Hospice, 1000 S. Jefferson, Amarillo.

Ambulance

The Rural/Metro reported the following calls during the 24-hour period ending at 7 a.m. today.

Wednesday, March 10
 10:44 a.m. — A mobile ICU responded to the 1200 block of S. Faulkner. No one was transported.

7:54 p.m. — A mobile ICU responded to the 800 block of W. 25th and transported one to Columbia Medical Center.

10:12 p.m. — A mobile ICU responded to the 800 block of W. 25th and transported one to Columbia Medical Center.

Thursday, March 11
 12:51 a.m. — A mobile ICU responded to the 800 block of W. 25th and transported one to Columbia Medical Center.

Fires

The Pampa Fire Department reported the following calls during the 24-hour period ending at 7 a.m. today.

Wednesday, March 10
 10:38 a.m. — Two units and four personnel responded to the 1200 block of S. Faulkner on a medical assist.

Thursday, March 11
 6:10 a.m. — Two units and four personnel responded to the 2000 block of Hamilton on a CO check.

Police report

The Pampa Police Department reported the following arrests and reports during the 24-hour period ending at 7 a.m. today.

Wednesday, March 10
 Manuel Vasquez Garcia, 43, 1109 Sandelewood, was arrested on charges of violation of protection order.

Juan Carlos Silva, 25, 724 Sloan, was arrested on charges of domestic assault.

Criminal mischief was reported in the 700 block of Zimmers.

Possession of a controlled substance, evading arrest and pedestrian in the roadway was reported in the 1000 block of Huff.

Sheriff's Office

The Gray County Sheriff's Department reported the following arrests during the 24-hour period ending at 7 a.m. today.

Wednesday, March 10
 Bobby Ray McGinnis, 67, 405 E. 17th, was arrested on charges of driving while intoxicated.

Correction

Laqueta Smith's name was incorrectly spelled in a photo caption in Wednesday's paper.

Stocks

The following grain quotations are provided by Attebury Grain of Pampa		Coca Cola		64 5/16		up 1/8	
Wheat	2.48	Columbia/HCA	19 1/4	up 9/16			
Milo	3.24	Enron	70 3/16	up 3/16			
Corn	3.62	Haliburton	36 11/16	up 1/4			
Soybeans	3.97	IKR	3 3/4	up 1/16			
		KNE	20 3/8	up 5/16			
		Kerr McGee	32 7/16	up 3/8			
		Limited	38 7/16	dn 7/16			
		McDonald's	44 3/8	up 1/16			
		Mobil	93 3/4	up 2 3/8			
		New Atmos	25 5/16	up 1/4			
		NCE	39 7/8	dn 11/16			
		Penney's	37 1/2	dn 5/16			
		Phillips	44 3/4	up 2 3/4			
		Pioneer Nat. Res.	6 1/4	up 3/16			
		SLB	58 3/8	dn 1/8			
		Tenneco	30 3/8	up 1/16			
		Texaco	56 1/4	up 2 1/8			
		Ultrapar	20 9/16	dn 1/16			
		Wal-Mart	94 7/16	up 7/8			
		Williams	36 1/2	up 3/16			
		New York Gold	293 70	5 27			
		Silver		5 27			
		West Texas Crude		13 95			

Emergency numbers

Ambulance	911
Crime Stoppers	669-2222
Energas	665-5777
Fire	911
Police (emergency)	911
Police (non-emergency)	669-5700

Grand jury indicts Booker pair

LIPSCOMB — Two Booker residents were free on bond today after being indicted Monday by a Lipscomb Country grand jury.

Becky Bernal Herrera, 25, was indicted on three counts of injury to a child.

Carlos Camacho, 24, faces two indictments of delivery of a controlled substance by actual transfer.

Herrera was free on bonds totaling \$2,250. A \$750 bond was set on each count.

Camacho was free today on bonds totaling \$3,000. A bond of \$1,500 was set on each indictment.

Herrera was indicted in connection with a report to state welfare officials concerning three children in Herrera's care on Oct. 24, 1998. The two boys and a girl are all under 15 years old.

Camacho was indicted by the Lipscomb County grand jury in connection with the sale of a controlled substance on May 21, 1997, and again on May 24, 1997, to undercover agents of the Panhandle Regional Narcotics Trafficking Task Force, according to a spokesman with the 31st and 223rd District Attorney's office.

CONTINUED FROM PAGE ONE

OIL

support to the federal Children's Health Insurance Program, which would provide insurance to children of families who cannot afford private coverage.

Those House members sought to qualify youngsters for the program as long as their parents earned no more than twice the federal poverty level, while Bush advocated a lower level.

Some members also questioned whether the tax break amounted to "corporate welfare" since others, including farmers, have also suffered from economic downturn.

"We can hand out welfare checks to the oil industry, but those people who are advocating that, we hope, are not the same ones who will oppose health insurance for kids," said Rep. Kevin Bailey, D-Houston.

Bailey said it's "a shame" that the second bill passed in the House this session is oil tax relief when Texas continues to have 1.4 million uninsured children.

"That is at least as big a crisis as the so-called crisis in the oil industry. It is at least as big a problem and we should not ignore it," he said.

"The bill potentially is corporate welfare at its

worse."

Oil producers say the tax break will help save jobs and keep marginal wells from being shut down, which would result in less property tax money for school districts. They also contend that at current low prices, it costs many of them more money to keep pumping than they earn from the small wells.

"Today's action shows once again that when faced with a crisis, Texas responds," said Tony Garza, chairman of the Railroad Commission.

"I've said many times that the Texas oil and gas industry is in survival mode. It's a crisis that broadly affects our state's economy, general revenue and school funding."

The House voted down an amendment proposed by Bailey that would have capped the amount each oil producer could claim in tax relief at \$200,000. Some members said the cap would cause administrative problems.

The amendment would have ensured that small producers, not just large oil companies, benefited from the tax relief, Bailey said.

He noted in a floor report distributed by the Legislative Study Group that 240 oil producers own more than 100 wells comprising 52 percent of the 142,674 eligible for the tax credit.

Man wanted in sex assault captured

DEFUNIACK SPRINGS, Fla. (AP) — A Texas fugitive wanted in the aggravated sexual assault of an 11-year-old leukemia sufferer was captured in the Florida panhandle Wednesday.

Walton County sheriff's investigators picked up transient laborer Donald Lee Eary, 35, in Destin shortly after 4 p.m.

Sheriff's correctional officer James Hall said Eary initially gave a false name. Later, "he admitted he's Donald Lee Eary," Hall said.

Eary disappeared in September 1997, before police could arrest him on suspicion of attacking the girl who shared the Central Texas home where he was staying.

He vanished before the child's guardian learned

of the attack, police say.

Eary, whose criminal history includes theft, burglary, and weapons offenses, was paroled to McLennan County, Texas in May 1997, following a conviction on drug possession charges. Police allege the attack happened a few months later.

In the 15 months that have passed since a grand jury first indicted Eary in the case of the 11-year-old girl, investigators say they have learned about other alleged incidents, including one that may have involved a child as young as 18 months.

Eary was being held without bond in the Walton County Jail in DeFuniack Springs until authorities can return him to Texas.

Calendar of events

PAMPA AREA LITERACY COUNCIL
 Pampa Area Literacy Council office will be open from 1 to 4 p.m. Tuesday through Friday. For more information, call 665-2331.

THEE PLACE
 Thee Place for Singles is open 7-10:30 p.m. Saturdays at 520 W. Kingsmill.

ADHD/ADD SUPPORT GROUP
 If interested in the ADHD/ADD Sport Group call Connie at 669-9364.

EMMAUS REUNION
 Emmaus Reunion Group meets the second Thursday of each month. For more information, call 669-3426 or 669-9226.

Weather focus

LOCAL FORECAST

Cloudy and breezy with a 30 percent chance of rain with a high of 53 and east winds at 15-25 mph. Tonight, showers and thunderstorms with an 80 percent area coverage, a low in the mid 30s and winds from the east at 15-25 mph. Tomorrow, an 80 percent chance of rain, breezy with a high of 45. Yesterday's high was 70; the overnight low 32.

REGIONAL FORECAST

WEST TEXAS — Panhandle — Tonight, showers and thunderstorms. Breezy with a low in the mid 30s. Area coverage of rain 80 percent. East wind 15-25 mph. Friday, cloudy with an 80 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms. Breezy with a high in the lower 40s. Northeast wind 15-25 mph and gusty. Extreme Southern Panhandle/Low Rolling Plains — Tonight, showers and thunderstorms, most numerous east. Low upper 30s and 40s. Friday, chance of morning showers, mainly east. Becoming windy. High mid 40s northwest to around 60 southeast. Permian Basin/Upper Trans Pecos — Tonight, chance of showers and thunderstorms. Low lower 40s north to mid 50s south. Friday, decreasing clouds and windy. High upper 60s and 70s. Concho Valley/Edwards Plateau — Tonight, showers and thunder-

storms likely. Low mid 50s. Friday, chance of morning thunderstorms, then partly cloudy. High upper 60s and 70s. Far West Texas — Tonight, cloudy. Low lower 40s. Friday, windy and cooler. High lower 60s. Guadalupe Mountains/Big Bend Area — Tonight, partly cloudy and windy. Lows 40s to lower 50s. Friday, windy and cooler. High generally 60s mountains to 70s Rio Grande.

NORTH TEXAS — Tonight, rain likely with scattered thunderstorms west, central and southeast. Cloudy with a chance of rain or thunderstorms northeast. Windy west and central. Low 48 to 56. Friday, cool and windy with occasional rain and scattered thunderstorms. High 54 to 65.

SOUTH TEXAS — Hill Country and South Central Texas — Tonight, cloudy with a slight chance of rain late. Lows in the low to mid 60s, near 60 Hill Country. Friday, cloudy with a chance of rain during the morning, becoming partly cloudy during the afternoon. High near 80, mid 70s Hill Country. Southeast Texas and Upper Texas Coast — Tonight and Friday, cloudy with scattered to numerous showers and thunderstorms. Areas of late night and early morning fog. Lows in the 60s. Highs in the 70s. Coastal Bend and the Rio Grande Plains — Tonight, mostly cloudy. Lows 65 to 70. Friday,

mostly cloudy. Becoming partly cloudy by early afternoon. Rio Grande plains. A slight chance of showers or thunderstorms crossroads area and coastal bend. Highs upper 70s to near 80 coast, 80s inland, 85 to 90 Rio Grande plains.

BORDER STATES

NEW MEXICO — Winter storm watch northern mountains, upper Rio Grande valley, and northeast highlands tonight. Winter storm watch northern mountains, upper Rio Grande valley, northeast highlands, and northeast plains Friday. Tonight, several inches of snow likely northern mountains and northeast highlands with a chance for snow remainder of the mountains and north. A slight chance for showers southern lowlands. Lows upper teens to around 30 mountains and north, 30s and lower 40s elsewhere. Friday, cold with snow likely northern mountains and northeast plains. Cooler with a slight chance for showers northwest and south. Windy most areas. Highs from the upper 20s and 30s northeast to the 50s and 60s southern lowlands.

OKLAHOMA — Tonight, occasional rain west and rain likely east, especially after midnight. Lows in the lower 30s to mid 50s. Friday, windy with occasional rain. Rain may mix with snow late in the afternoon northwest. Highs in the 40s and lower 50s.

City briefs

The Pampa News is not responsible for the content of paid advertisement

HOBBY SHOP Spring Break Craft Time for Children ages 6-12. Come by to sign up or call 669-6161 for more information. Registration ends March 13th. Adv.

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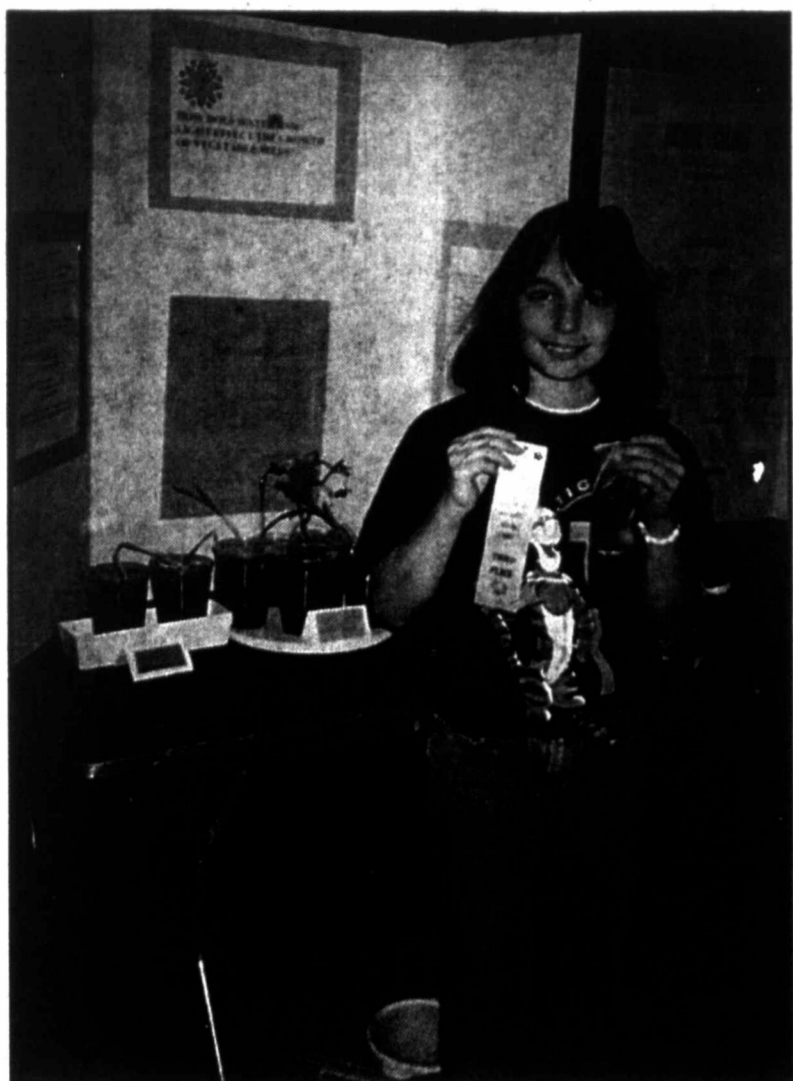
TREES, PANSIES & seed potatoes & onions, inc. Texas Sweet onions, are at Watson's, 125 N. Somerville. Adv.

MASSAGE THERAPY by Doris King, RMT 665-6067. Adv.

MCCARLEY ESTATE Auction moved to Lefors Civic Center, due to bad weather. Jim Hash Auctioneers, 806-323-5740. Adv.

RETIREE BEANIE 1/2 price. Cottage Collection Booth #605. Adv. **NASCAR COLLECTOR** Cards, Caps, and T-shirts, Holmes Sports Center, 304 S. Cuyler. Adv.

Science Fair



(Special photo) Katie Kirkpatrick, a student of Mrs. Walsh's fourth grade class at Travis Elementary, returned home with a third place ribbon for her Botany Project, "How Water & Light Affect the Growth of Vegetable Seeds," from the Regional Science Fair held recently at Amarillo College.

PCCA launching membership campaign

The Pampa Community Concert Association's membership campaign is continuing with workers seeking new members and renewals from current members of the organization.

The campaign is scheduled to continue through March. Membership dues are \$25 for adults and \$10 for students. Family memberships are \$60 and include two adults and two or more students under 18 years

of age in the same family. Attendance to concerts is by membership card only.

The purpose of Pampa Community Concert Association is to present a series of live professional concerts in the community at the lowest possible cost. Four shows are scheduled for the '99-2000 season including Canadian tenor Mark DeBois with pianist Gloria Saarinen; folk singer Sally Rogers; the Galaxy ragtime program is jointly sponsored with the Borger Concert Association. All performances will be staged at M.K. Brown Auditorium in Pampa.

A covered-dish dinner for workers in the campaign will be held Monday, Mar. 15, at 6:30 p.m. at Zion Lutheran Church, 1200 Duncan. Workers' spouses are welcome and encouraged to attend the dinner, according to

Lilith Brainard, membership chairman.

Workers' check-in days are set for March 1 through 12 from 4 to 5 p.m. in the Fine Arts office in the Pampa Chamber of Commerce building. Monday, Mar. 15, through Mar. 19 the office will also be open from 10 a.m. to 5:15 p.m.

For membership mail check to Mrs. L. Brainard, P.O. Box 1935, Pampa, Tx. 79065; or call 665-0343; President, David Cory, 669-3235; or Drive Co-chairmen Willie Mae Mangold, 669-7259 and Ruth Riehart, 665-3362.

Lamar Elementary honor roll

Lamar Elementary School recently released its honor roll for the fourth six weeks grading period of the 1998-99 school year.

SECOND GRADE

Brittney Coombes, Raymond Cox, Codi Guthrie, Tyler Jones, Olivia Allen, Andrew Hatcher, James Morales, Callie Preston, Kelsie Serrato, Hayden Skinner, Matthew Terry, Abby West, Senocia Cruz, Keyra Dunham, Celeste Gonzales, Tristin Reeves, Heath Skinner, Dustin Smith.

THIRD GRADE

Erin Hall, Elizabeth McGrath, Ashley Meyer, Ivan Miranda, Ashleigh Young, George Albear, Aaron Brown, Ashley Brown, Mayah Cash, Eduardo Mendoza, Elizabeth Wade, Jennifer Yount, Kambra Jimenez, Veronica

Solorzano, David Soto, Jemica Walker.

FOURTH GRADE

Jamie Gonzales, Adam Hagerman, Karim Molinar, Philip Rodriguez, Joshua Sanders, Jon-Nathan Stewart, Melissa Collier, Kali Jimenez, Robert McLean, Michael Robinson, Halei Skinner, Marco Valles, Veronica Vela, Nikki Villareal, Britnee Ladbetter, Andrew Lawrence, Lensey Mixon, Franky Ortega, Traci Rodriguez, Bobby Sikes, Cody Snow.

FIFTH GRADE

Brittney Cox, Simona Cruz, Cody Greenlee, Adrian Puentes, Mariza Scott, Daniel Clark, Quinn Evans, Taylor Reeves, Royce McGrath, Cassy Roe, Josiah West.

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THE Pampa NEWS

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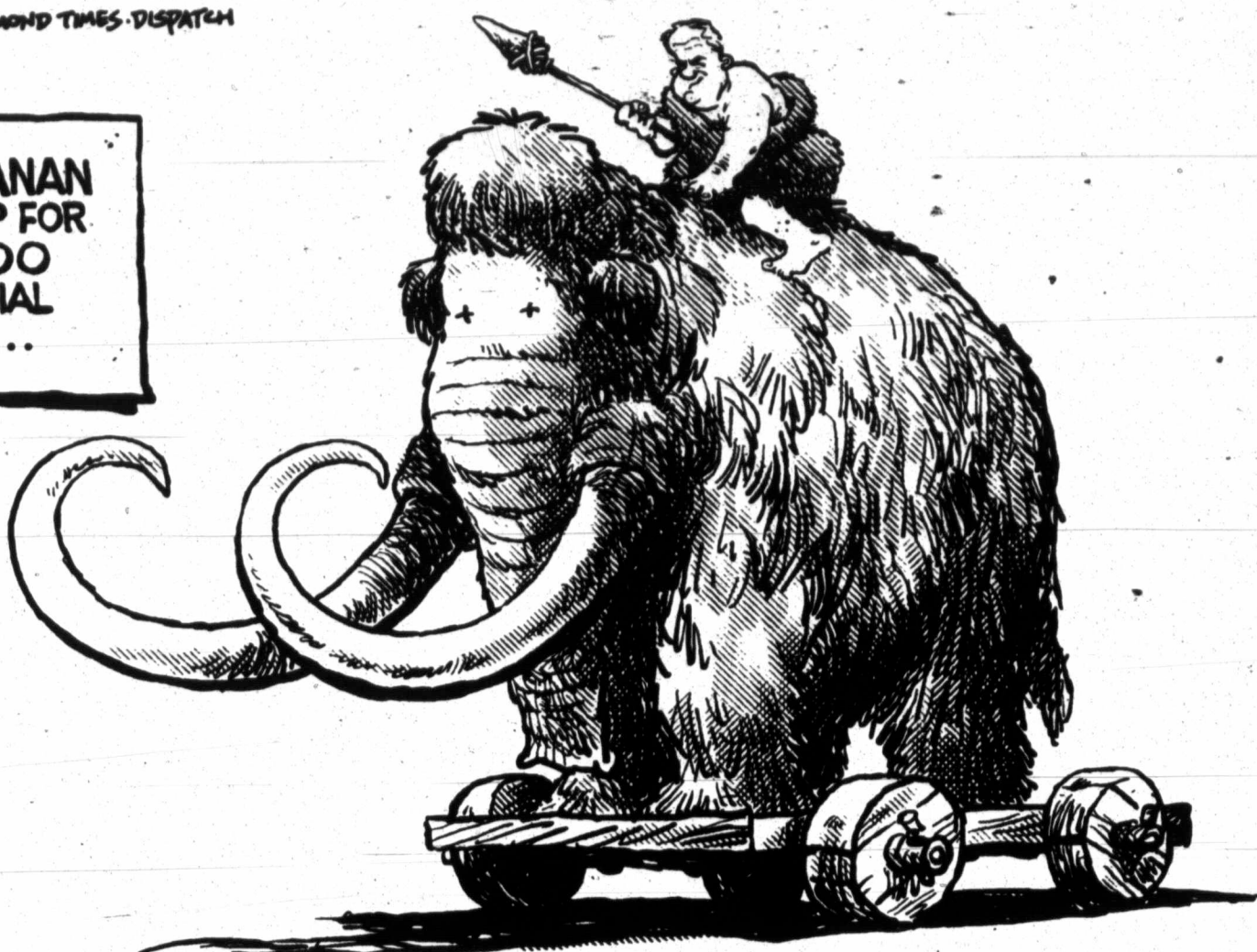
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PAT BUCHANAN
 MOUNTS UP FOR
 THE 2000
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Opinion

Opening the book on a free market

In some ways it was a tempest in a teapot. But the swiftness with which on-line bookseller Amazon.com responded to criticism about its promotional practices recently demonstrated a couple of important things.

A free market buttressed by a free flow of information works more quickly and more effectively for the benefit of consumers than almost any institution yet devised — especially a creaky government regulatory regime.

And information flows more quickly and from a greater variety of sources on the Internet than almost anywhere.

It all began with a story in the New York Times. The newspaper reported that publishers who want their books promoted on the bookseller's home page often pay a \$10,000 fee to have a book highlighted with a picture, an author interview, a favorable review or excerpts.

Amazon.com spokesman Bill Curry quickly declared that professional book reviewers at the company have to be enthusiastic before a book is eligible for the "cooperative advertising allowance" treatment and that potential co-op books "are rejected every day because the cash is less important than the credibility of the information."

But shortly thereafter, however, Amazon.com had announced that it was changing policy as soon as possible the company will find a way to distinguish "co-op" reviews for which a fee has been paid from other reviews and recommendations that aren't the result of fees paid.

And it has changed its return policy. Previously, any book could be returned for a full refund if it was in "new" condition, but from now on a reader disappointed in an Amazon-recommended book can return it for a full refund even if it is in dog-eared condition.

Was this a real scandal? Well, consumers are almost always better off the more they know, and they didn't know before that publishers were paying for featured treatment. Now they will know.

But Amazon.com is a bookseller, a commercial enterprise, not a news site claiming only to provide disinterested opinions about books. In physical book stores — as in almost every retail enterprise — manufacturers often provide co-op advertising money or some other consideration like extra discounts to get favorable shelf-space like end-caps on aisles or placement in the "New and Hot" section at the front of the store.

Retailers seldom put up signs saying "this book (or detergent or taco chip) is here because its manufacturer paid for special placement."

The New York Times has for years partnered with Barnes and Noble.com, placing links to the bookseller (and Amazon.com competitor) near the book reviews on its news website (and getting a percentage when its readers make purchases). Is this a welcome convenience for readers or a sneaky way of making money from them? Options differ.

On-line news sites trying to find a way to cover costs and make a profit — something only a few have managed despite enthusiasm for Internet-related stocks — constantly wrestling with the sometimes blurred line between editorial and advertising content. No single solution is likely to fit all circumstances.

In the case of Amazon.com, however, it took all of two days for a company to be criticized and to change its policies in the direction of fuller disclosure. Imagine how long it would have taken if we had to depend on the government to notice the problem, study it, hold hearings, make proposals, get comments and implement a regulation long after the problem had ceased to be important.

—Odessa American

Just a few thoughts ...

I don't think it's too much to ask. I just wish everyone could think like me so I wouldn't find myself sitting at stop signs wondering why so-and-so acts the way they do. Or why that stupid lady said what she said to me. I get sick of people sometimes. I can't help it. Someone says something totally ludicrous and I wonder what planet they're from and if I know anybody else who's from the same bizarre world.

Like I don't understand that judge of the 5th Circuit Appeals Court who believes prayer is only for solemn events. If he believes in prayer at all, at least in the sense that most of us around here do, I'd think he'd have picked up the Bible once or twice and read about one of the plethora of instances where prayer was used at non-solemn events throughout Biblical history.

It's like we think these judges and law people are so smart. They have to be to have gotten where they are, right? And then they go and say something stupid like that. Besides, the word "solemn" wouldn't be one of my top word choices for a high school graduation.

So what did you think about that Monica Lewinsky interview? Pretty entertaining, huh.

Random Revelations
Miranda G. Bailey
 Pampa News staff writer



The highlight for me was watching her squirm as Walters asked her to describe phone sex. How embarrassing is that! I had to turn my head away just to think about what I would do if I was asked that question on television in front of the world.

But I'm not Monica. I'm Miranda. Yeah, I'm the one who's supposed to be writing about the innate annoyance I have for innately annoying people. Interesting, nice, normal people are easy to get along with. It's just all those weird, freaky types that drive me batty.

At least once a month I think about all the people in this world who bug me. And what it is that they do to get my goat. And then I start thinking about all the goats other people prob-

ably have corralled because of me. And how stupid it is to say something like "get my goat."

But you know, there are very special people in this world, too. I have to shut my trap when I think about people like John McKeon.

McKeon, who passed away recently, worked for the Pampa News as a salesman and writer for a number of years until he retired in 1991. I never knew him in that capacity, but I did know him as a fellow patron of the arts.

He was a board member of the ACT I theatre board. Even at age 83, he was at each meeting eager to second a vote or go out door-to-door to sell ads for the organization's programs.

I didn't know him that well, but from what I did know, he was a very happy, generous man who gave of himself. And from what I hear, he wore many hats during his involvement with ACT I over the years. What a blessing he was to many people in the community, if only it was in the warm smile he gave away while passing by.

For all the nutty, crazy, mind-boggling people in the world, if one or two in the crowd end up being like John McKeon, then I think I can learn to deal with the rest of the bunch.

Today in history

By The Associated Press

Today is Thursday, March 11, the 70th day of 1999. There are 295 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On March 11, 1942, as Japanese forces continued to advance in the Pacific during World War II, Gen. Douglas MacArthur left the Philippines for Australia, vowing: "I shall return." He did, nearly three years later.

On this date:

In 1810, Emperor Napoleon of France was married by proxy to Archduchess Marie Louise of Austria.

In 1861, the Confederate convention in Montgomery, Ala., adopted a constitution.

In 1888, the famous "Blizzard of '88" struck the northeastern United States, resulting in some 400 deaths.

In 1941, President Roosevelt signed into law the Lend-Lease Bill, providing war supplies to countries fighting the Axis.

In 1954, the U.S. Army charged that Wisconsin Sen. Joseph R. McCarthy and his subcommittee's chief counsel, Roy Cohn, had exerted pressure to obtain favored treatment for Pvt. G. David Schine, a former consultant to the subcommittee.

In 1959, the Lorraine Hansberry drama "A Raisin in the Sun" opened at New York's Ethel Barrymore Theater.

In 1965, the Rev. James J. Reeb, a white minister from Boston, died after being beaten by whites during civil rights disturbances in Selma, Ala.

In 1977, more than 130 hostages held in Washington, D.C., by Hanafi Muslims were freed after

ambassadors from three Islamic nations joined the negotiations.

In 1985, Mikhail S. Gorbachev was chosen to succeed the late Soviet President Konstantin U. Chernenko.

Ten years ago: Former World Bank head John J. McCloy, who had advised several presidents, died in Stamford, Conn., at age 93.

Five years ago: Secretary of State Warren Christopher arrived in Beijing, the mood of his trip already soured by a fresh government crackdown on Chinese dissidents.

One year ago: The International Astronomical Union issued an alert, saying a mile-wide asteroid could zip very close to Earth on Oct. 26, 2028, possibly colliding with it. But the next day, NASA's Jet Propulsion Laboratory said there was no chance the asteroid

will hit Earth. A Florida appeals court restored Joe Carollo as mayor of Miami after charges of voter fraud on absentee ballots.

Today's Birthdays: Media mogul

Rupert Murdoch is 68. ABC News correspondent Sam Donaldson is 65. Supreme Court Justice Antonin Scalia is 63. Musician Flaco Jimenez (The Texas Tornados) is 60. Actress Tricia O'Neil is 54. Rock singer-musician Mark Stein (Vanilla Fudge) is 52. Singer Bobby McFerrin is 49. Movie director Jerry Zucker is 49. Actress Susan Richardson is 47. Singer Nina Hagen is 44. Country singer Jimmy Fortune (The Statler Brothers) is 44. Singer Cheryl Lynn is 42. Actress Alex Kingston ("ER") is 36. Actor Wallace Langham ("Veronica's Closet") is 34. Actor John Barrowman is 31. Singer Pete Dinklage is 30.

Force is often essential to freedom

Back in the 1960s, liberals used to argue that if you don't pay the welfare costs, you will have to pay for the cost of crime.

My reply to that was always, "Bullets are cheaper than welfare."

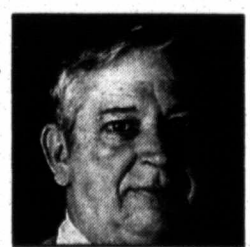
If Americans hope to live in a livable society, they are going to have to make up their minds that they will not give into blackmail or to threats for any reason at any time.

The big failure on many campuses in the 1960s was the spinelessness of university presidents who would not defend the civilization that makes a university possible. They allowed students to use fascist tactics to silence everyone they disagreed with. The presidents gave in to the use of force.

Whenever students or anyone illegally occupy someone else's property, the proper course is to warn them to leave, then have them arrested and prosecuted for criminal trespass and then, if they are students, expel them permanently. Thugs have no place on a campus.

The message that should always be sent is that in a free society, every topic, every complaint is open to debate and civil discussion and to remedy by the democratic process. But the second that force is introduced or threatened, all discussion stops. The issue then becomes upholding the law. As Ayn Rand said perfectly: The only logical reply to force is counterforce.

Charley Reese
 Syndicated columnist



Too many Americans back then were too gutless to do that, and many once-great universities became jokes, as many still are. Too many Americans today are still too gutless to do the right thing.

I read an article the other day by a professor who argued that even though affirmative action and racial quotas are wrong, they are necessary to avoid riots.

Well, in the first place, in the two states where affirmative action and racial quotas have been banned, there haven't been any riots. But if the choice is doing the right thing and having riots or doing the wrong thing to avoid riots, then by all means bring on the riots. Once more, bullets are cheaper than giving into blackmail.

If you are going to maintain a free society that is governed by reason and democratic processes, then you have to be willing to shoot any number of people who try to destroy that soci-

ety by using force. You cannot maintain anything which you are unwilling to defend. Indeed, you cannot really love something or someone if you are unwilling to defend them. You cannot preserve the rule of law by surrendering to force or the threat of force.

I've always said that the way to stop a riot is to start shooting and to keep shooting until there isn't any riot left. People intent on robbery, arson and murder don't deserve to be talked to. You'd only have to stack the dead looter's up once, and I think that the next time there was an incident, even stupid people would realize it was not a healthy idea to have a riot.

It's a paradox, but a society based on civility, reason and the democratic process requires the same brutal protection against a threat of force that any other, less-perfect society requires.

One of those unpleasant rules that many people don't wish to acknowledge is that today, as in the past, force is the ultimate ruler of human affairs. All of Rome's laws, arts, technology and intellects existed within the ring of steel provided by the legions. When the ring was breached, Roman civilization fell to the sharp swords of the barbarians.

And so will ours if we fail to protect it. Words can't protect it against steel. Only steel can talk to steel. Less has changed than most post-modern Americans want to admit.



(Pampa News photo by Jeff West)

Sergeants and other DPS officials met in Pampa recently at for a DPS area meeting. They discussed new procedures and laws affecting their work.

Man takes aim on family in church shooting; 4 dead

GONZALES, La. (AP) — The pastor had just started reading a Bible lesson about being born again when the gunman kicked open the doors, fired twice into the ceiling and ordered everybody to hit the floor.

He then marched down the aisle, shooting between the benches as screaming parishioners scattered in horror and pausing once to calmly reload. Among the crowd, police said, were the man's wife and child.

"His little boy turned and said, 'Daddy. That's when he shot. He hit his wife first and then the baby,'" congregation member Lolita Enkadi said.

"And then he just started emptying his gun. He shot one in the back of the head. We were all trying to get down. I just lay on the bench and started praying."

Shon Miller's wife and son and another member of the New St. John Fellowship Baptist Church congregation were killed and four others were wounded Wednesday night at the one-story stucco church 20 miles southeast of Baton Rouge.

Miller also shot his mother-in-law to death at home before traveling the few blocks to the church, police said.

"The safest place in world I always thought was a church and

now that sanctuary has been broken," police Chief Bill Landry said. "We'll all be a long time getting over this."

Officers said it took three hours of searching around the single-family homes and winter cabbage gardens near the church in this small town of 7,000 before they found Miller.

When they discovered him in a shed about 100 yards away, he tried to kill himself, Landry said. An officer blasted the pistol out of his hand with a shotgun at close range, wounding him.

Miller was taken to Medical Center of Louisiana at New Orleans, where he was listed in guarded condition. He was paralyzed from the waist down with buckshot wounds to the back, right hand and face, said hospital spokesman Jerry Romig.

Miller will be charged with four counts of first-degree murder and three counts of attempted first-degree murder, Landry said.

When the firing started, about 50 to 75 worshippers were inside the building where the congregation is holding services while the big brick church down the street is renovated.

The Rev. Wilbert Holmes said he thought it was some kind of prank when the gunman burst

through the foyer doors.

"Then he started shooting," Holmes said "I would think I was his easiest target. Everybody else was sitting down."

His targets were in the congregation.

The shooting lasted long enough for the gunman to empty one clip in the semi-automatic pistol and then reload and continue shooting into the pews. As he left, Holmes heard him mumble something like, "That will show you."

Landry said investigators were still compiling the names of the victims, but the minister said the slain wife was Carla Miller.

Authorities said the other victims were a 53-year-old woman and 19-year-old man. Two people were hospitalized in critical condition, and two teen-agers were in good condition — one of them Ms. Enkadi's 16-year-old son, Donald Rideau, who was shot in the leg.

Nadine Wilson, Mrs. Miller's cousin, said the Millers married about two years ago and that she left him shortly later.

"It was just a domestic problem that turned into domestic violence," Landry said.

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4th Week
She's All That (PG-13)
Fri. & Sat. 7:15 & 9:15
Sun. thru Thurs. 7:15
Sat. & Sun. Matinees 2:00

1st Run
Cruel Intentions (R)
Fri. & Sat. 7:15 & 9:15
Sun. thru Thurs. 7:15
Sat. & Sun. Matinees 2:00

4th Week
Message In A Bottle (PG-13)
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Sun. thru Thurs. 7:05
Sat. & Sun. Matinees 1:45

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Leaving Town Is Wrong Way To Polish Smudged Reputation

DEAR ABBY: I have never written a letter to a column in my entire life, but I was infuriated over the answer you gave "Repented in Oregon" about her tarnished reputation. (I'm assuming it must be a female because males don't get bad reputations for promiscuity.)

I was once a "tarnished teen" with low self-esteem. I find it ridiculous that you'd say it would be more effective to start over elsewhere. Isn't that considered running away from your problems? I didn't need to move to a new location to get the respect I now have and deserve.

Not that it was an easy road. It took a long time to learn to love and respect myself. My advice to "Repented" would be, "Believe in yourself."

AVID READER

DEAR AVID READER: It will please you to know that I have been bombarded with mail from readers who disagreed with my answer. Many said that since the girl has repented, the matter is now between her and God, and she should hold her head up with pride and ride it out. Read on for a letter that shows particular insight:

DEAR ABBY: Your reply to "Repented" was sexist and old-fashioned. The reality is that none of us would like to be judged by what we did when we were younger. All of us have done things that we regret, but our lives go on. Those who condemn us for our past actions are not



Abigail Van Buren

SYNDICATED COLUMNIST

behaving with compassion and should be ignored.

George Sand said, "There are no more thorough prudes than those who have some little secret to hide." I know this to be true. After I was raped, I was promiscuous for a year. I refused to acknowledge what had happened to me or what I was doing to myself. After I married, I began acting like a prude, judging others, spreading malicious gossip and being the part of a chaste woman. But deep down I hated myself.

I finally went into therapy. Although I'm not proud of what I did all those years ago, I understand now that I was surviving the only way I knew how. I now feel more regret for how I treated others when I gossiped and judged than about my past promiscuous behavior. I'm a different person than I was years ago; I feel compassion for others. I'm finally free of self-loathing.

Your advice sounded like "Repented" should feel shame for her past. Our society holds women by a different standard than men. I find it hard to believe she's the only

person in that community who has done something she regrets. If people treat her badly, she should remember that it says more about who they are than who she is.

FORGAVE MYSELF, GREAT FALLS, MONT.

DEAR FORGAVE MYSELF: If my advice sounded like "Repented" should feel shame for her past, it was not intentional. She has my sympathy. If she wishes to remain where she is — and people can see that she has changed her lifestyle — she may eventually rebuild her reputation. But it will take a long time, and she said that she is now practically friendless.

I thought she was asking how to start over. That is why I told her that starting over in a new location would be easier, faster and probably more effective.

Readers, I'll print more on this subject tomorrow.

To receive a collection of Abby's most memorable — and most frequently requested — poems and essays, send a business-sized, self-addressed envelope, plus check or money order for \$3.95 (\$4.50 in Canada) to: Dear Abby's "Keepers," P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, Ill. 61054-0447. (Postage is included.)

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Horoscope

FRIDAY, MARCH 12, 1999

BY JACQUELINE BIGAR

The Stars Show the Kind of Day You'll Have: 5-Dynamic; 4-Positive; 3-Average; 2-So-so; 1-Difficult

ARIES (March 21-April 19)

★★★★ You are inspired by others. Take time to sit down and brainstorm. Clearly, there are many ways to go, whether in a work project or making social plans for the weekend. Others are naturally helpful; you are instinctive about what is needed. Express these thoughts. Tonight: Going way overboard!

TAURUS (April 20-May 20)

★★★★ At the last minute, work becomes demanding. You might wonder how to handle this situation. Loosen up about what is going on. Do your best for a boss. Your role in the workplace is changing. Do some needed research, then escape the office ASAP. Tonight: Liberated at last!

GEMINI (May 21-June 20)

★★★★ One-to-one relating is highlighted. You get a strong sense of direction. News proves most fruitful and exciting. You achieve what you want via the "side door." Let your imagination spin; talk about what could be. Another understands your desires and will help. Tonight: You are happiest as a duo.

CANCER (June 21-July 22)

★★★★ You don't always understand where others are coming from. Initiate talks with a partner. Though there is an element of

vagueness, you gain a better sense of direction.

Be careful about another's offer of financial support. This person might mean well, but he may not come through. Tonight: Out on the town.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)

★★★★ Others produce unusually intriguing ideas. Document their information. Another might be inadvertently distorting facts. Be efficient, clear your desk and get through work as quickly as possible. More interesting activities lie on the horizon. Tonight: Out with the gang.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)

★★★★ Allow more fun into your work. Your high standards and ethics are wonderful; balance them with lightness. A co-worker needs time to talk to you and brainstorm. Let him know the real you. Cooperation will be on the upswing. Tonight: Out playing, for a change.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)

★★★★ You are coming from a stable point of view. Think before you leap into action. Others have strong opinions, as well. Wipe your rose-colored glasses before going along with a child's or loved one's request. He knows how to pull your chain! Don't get tangled in his web. Tonight: Put your feet up and relax.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)

★★★★ Listen carefully to the toms. Others are trying to tell you something you might not be hearing. Co-workers work with you. They have the best intentions. Be direct with others, listen to their ideas. Communication flows. Accept an invitation after work. Tonight: The chatter continues.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)

★★★★ Indulgence is a theme with which you are familiar. Once more, you get to

teach others how to have a good time.

A vague discussion with a child or loved one could gnaw at you. A little detail might have been left out. You might opt, finally, to go with that big expenditure. Tonight: Making the most of the moment.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)

★★★★ You finally let go and enjoy yourself. Clear out as much as possible and allow yourself to leave work early. Your playful side emerges with a family member. Let go of your traditional priorities. Maximize the moment. Your charisma speaks. Tonight: It's your call.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)

★★★★ Sometimes you are a lot more vague than you realize. Another's response surprises you. A scenario like this could play out presently. Laughter and humor need to become an even greater part of your day-to-day life. Refuse to take a comment personally. Tonight: Sometimes a secret needs to be kept.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)

★★★★ Your imagination could help you creatively at work, but be careful with those in charge. Knowing when to limit yourself becomes more and more important. Be direct with a child or friend. Expenditures go past budget, and you simply might not care. Tonight: Having a good time!

BORN TODAY

Actress Barbara Feldon (1941), singer Liza Minnelli (1946), singer James Taylor (1948)

Jacqueline Bigar is on the Internet at <http://www.coolpage.com/bigar>. © 1999 by King Features Syndicate Inc.

For Better or For Worse



Zits



Garfield



Beetle Bailey



Marvin



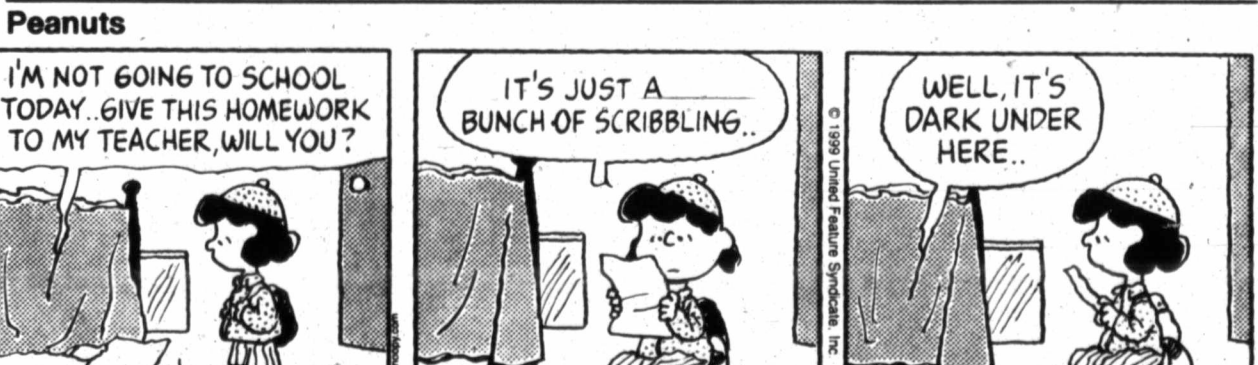
B.C.



Haggar The Horrible



Peanuts



Blondie



Mallard Filmore

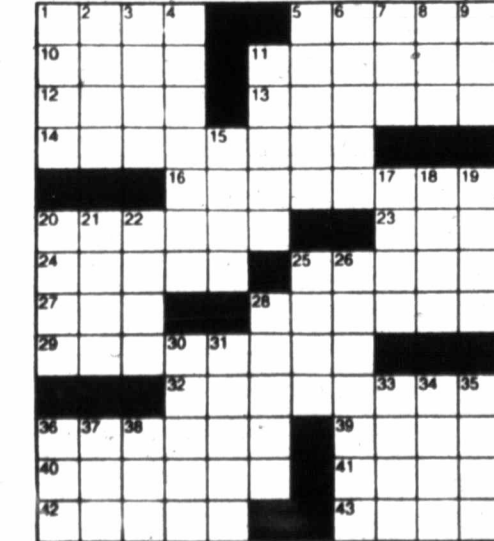


Crossword Puzzle

By THOMAS JOSEPH

ACROSS

- 1 Cuckoo
- 5 Sportscast
- 10 Realm
- 11 Less well off
- 12 Color
- 13 Power problem
- 14 Chopping tools
- 16 Anne who wed Shakespeare
- 20 Greedy ones
- 23 Bullfight cry
- 24 Fred's sister
- 25 Donated
- 27 Vast expanse
- 28 "Gun-smoke" star
- 29 Carolina cape
- 32 McCoy foe
- 36 Florida team
- 39 Fabric worker
- 40 Don or Phil of rock
- 41 Inventor Rubik
- 42 Baseballer Trillo
- 43 Harvest



SHIP CAROB DELL
 CAROB CILIA
 AROSE AVAST
 LEN INDEPTH
 EMIGRES SEE
 SCRUB PEN
 ETUDE
 MEWLIARS
 PAM LAFLEUR
 INBRIEF VITE
 PARIS EVITA
 EGYPT RAVED
 REOS TESS

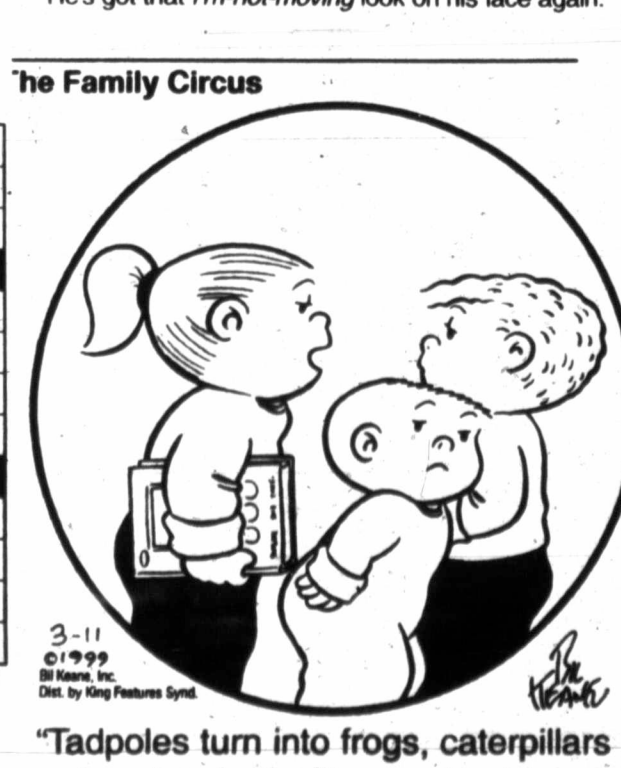
Yesterday's answer

- 22 Theater fixture
- 25 Seven-time Wimbledon champ
- 26 One with confidential info
- 28 Pretentious
- 30 Rose
- feature
- 31 Premature
- 33 Brontë name
- 34 Actress Olin
- 35 Plummet
- 36 Sparkler
- 37 Actress Gardner
- 38 Perfect rating

Marmaduke



The Family Circus



STUMPED?

For answers to today's crossword, call 1-900-454-7377! 99¢ per minute, touch-tone/rotary phones. (18+ only.) A King Features service, NYC.

SPORTS

Notebook BASKETBALL

SAN ANTONIO (AP) — David Robinson hit two free throws in the final 18.5 seconds — his only points of the second half — to lift the San Antonio Spurs to an 81-79 victory over the Orlando Magic Wednesday night.

It was a battle of futility as neither team scored in the final 4:47 — after Tim Duncan's three-point play tied the game at 79 — until Robinson's two free throws.

Robinson led the Spurs with 19 points as San Antonio (11-8) won its fifth straight game.

Penny Hardaway led the Magic with 22 points as Orlando (14-6) lost consecutive games for the first time this season and dropped behind Miami (14-5) in the Atlantic Division race.

Trailing 79-78, Orlando had a chance to take the lead. But Nick Anderson missed a 19-foot jumper and Robinson was fouled going for the rebound. The San Antonio center hit one of two free throws with 6.9 seconds left.

The Magic had one last try, but Anderson's hurried 30-footer was off the mark.

AUSTIN (AP) — Robert Tovar scored 29 points to lead defending champion Moulton to a 56-45 victory over Paducah on Thursday in the Class 1A semifinals of the boys' state high school basketball tournament.

Moulton (34-4) advances to Saturday's title game against the winner of Thursday's other semifinal between Brookeland (37-0) and Ponder (30-7).

Eric Rekieta led Paducah (28-4) with 16 points. He was the only Paducah player to score in double figures.

Moulton is in its third consecutive state tournament. Moulton won the Class 1A title in 1991 and 1998.

Tied 17-17 in the second quarter, Moulton went up 21-17 on consecutive baskets by Tovar, whose dunk with one second left in the half gave Moulton a 29-23 halftime lead. Tovar had 17 points in the two quarters.

A 3-pointer by Anthony Weaks put Moulton up 39-29, and Tovar stretched the lead to 43-31 with a basket at the buzzer to end the third quarter.

Paducah cut the deficit to eight three times in the final period, the last at 48-40 with 2:10 left on a Rekieta jumper but would get no closer.

Scott Chaloupka added 14 points on 7-of-10 shooting for Moulton, which scored 28 points off 18 Paducah turnovers. Moulton shot 53 percent as a team while holding Paducah to 41 percent.

Moulton's 56 points are the most given up in the postseason by Paducah, which had allowed only six previous opponents to score 50 or more points during the season.

FOOTBALL

HOUSTON (AP) — A businessman wants an NFL team in Houston, but the league only has one expansion team up for bids and two Los Angeles groups seem to have the advantage.

Bob McNair has a "win-win" solution: If both Houston and Los Angeles meet certain criteria, one would get an expansion team by 2002 and the other a relocated franchise.

But National Football League officials have a problem with McNair's proposition.

"While I'm sure it rings a real positive bell in Houston and L.A., I'm not sure how we could do that right now," said Joe Browne, an NFL spokesman.

He said the league wants to stay put at 32 teams after the next expansion and it does not want to encourage franchise relocation.

The NFL expansion committee is scheduled to discuss the issue Sunday. Browne said the committee is expected to send a recommendation to the 31 team owners, who are likely to vote on the matter Tuesday.

Is Instant replay set to return?

NEW YORK (AP) — For the NFL, two plus two equals instant replay.

After a season of officiating problems, the NFL appears set to bring back the often controversial system next week at its annual league meetings.

It will come in the form of what the league calls "two plus two," which give coaches two challenges per game to dispute plays before the final two minutes of each half. In the final two minutes of each half, or in all of overtime, the officiating crew will review plays on instant replay.

The plan, recommended by the competition committee, will combine elements of the replay system that was in effect from 1986-91.

Joe Browne, the league's chief spokesman, said Wednesday that he believes replay has the best chance for approval this year since it was taken out seven years ago.

The plan was approved 7-1 by the league's competition committee this week, with Cincinnati's Mike Brown, a longtime dissenter, the only "no" vote. It still must get 24 votes from the 31 teams to be approved.

The new element is the challenge, which will give coaches the right to challenge what they think is a bad call. The referee would make the final decision from a monitor on the field.

If the protest is turned down, the team will lose a timeout. If it's upheld, it will not.

In the final two minutes, a replay official in the press box can halt play any time he sees a questionable call, even if a team has used both its challenges. But the referee will still make the final decision.

The replay official would also question calls in overtime.

Replay has been voted down each year since it was voted out in 1992, in part because the coaches haven't been able to agree on a system.

However, Pittsburgh coach Bill Cowher, a member of the competition committee, said Wednesday he believes it will get the 24 votes necessary for approval. Several teams that have voted against it in the past, including the New York Giants — who have never voted for it — have said they might reconsider their position.

Other major items likely to come up during the meetings include:

— A decision on whether to award the 32nd franchise to Houston or Los Angeles, two cities that lost teams this decade. The owners are believed to be leaning toward Los Angeles, the larger market, but are unlikely to award a franchise to either of the two competing groups.

However, Browne said things are still up in the air.

"It will be one word or two — 'Houston' or 'Los Angeles,'" Browne said.

— A decision on whether to approve the \$800 million bid for the Washington Redskins by real estate mogul Howard Milstein. Browne said the major item still to be cleared up is collateral for a \$400 million loan — Milstein wants to use the team as collateral, the league's finance committee doesn't.

— An update on the status of Edward DeBartolo Jr., the owner of the San Francisco 49ers. Commissioner Paul Tagliabue said in January that it was unlikely that DeBartolo would have a role in the team in 1999 after pleading guilty to failing to report a felony and fined \$2 million in connection with a gambling license in Louisiana.

Hustling Lady Harvester



(Pampa News photo)

Pampa senior Lisa Kirkpatrick received the 1998-99 Hustling Lady Harvester Award during the annual girls' basketball banquet held earlier this week. Kirkpatrick is a three-sport standout, who also plays volleyball and softball at Pampa High. Lisa is the daughter of Russell and Carmen Kirkpatrick.

Pampa downs Fritch in junior varsity play

FRITCH — Pampa defeated Fritch 12-8 in a junior varsity baseball game earlier this week.

The winning pitcher was Kyle Keith while Adam Jones picked up the save. Keith gave up five hits, walked three and struck out three in two and a third innings. Jones also gave up five hits while walking three and striking out five in four and two-thirds innings.

Losing pitcher was Dallas Manning.

Travis Lancaster led Pampa's 10-hit attack with four hits in four times at bat.

Lancaster had two doubles and two stolen bases. Casey Meharg had three hits in five times bat with two doubles and

a stolen base. Justin Barnes, Tanner Hucks and Adam Jones had 1 hit each.

Lancaster, along with Juan Estrada, Jeremy Buck and Colby Brazile, played outstanding defense for the Pampa JVs.

"Travis Lancaster played an outstanding, all-around game. We came out swinging and attacked the ball," said Pampa coach Troy Owens. "Fritch kept coming back and our guys never let up. I'm very proud of everyone of them."

Pampa JVs now have a record of 3-2. Their next game is Friday at Palo Duro with game set to start at 4:30 p.m. Pampa goes to Dumas for a double-header at 1 p.m. Saturday.

Falu eligible to play for Cougars

HOUSTON (AP) — Antonio Falu, declared ineligible to play on his high school team because of a transcript mixup, has been cleared by the NCAA to play for the University of Houston Cougars, KRIV-TV of Houston reported Wednesday night.

"Things look pretty clear," Falu told the station. "The NCAA told me that I'm going to be able to play for the University of Houston next year and I'm looking forward to it."

Houston Waltrip officials declared the senior guard ineligible after finding that he violated the state's four-year eligibility rule by not listing on his transcript two prep schools he attended. The school forfeited the 12 games in which Falu

Lady Harvesters turn back Dumas in softball action

PAMPA — The Pampa Lady Harvesters softball team improved to 5-2 on the season and 3-1 in district play as they run-ruled Dumas 13-3 Tuesday in five innings.

Dumas was held scoreless through two innings while Pampa built a 4-0 lead.

Pampa's Kimberly Clark did not allow a hit until the third inning. With two outs, Dumas' Meghan King doubled over the head of rightfielder Lisa Dwight, driving in Dumas' first run of the game after a runner had reached on a walk to start the inning. Clark struck out the next batter she faced to end the inning.

In the bottom of the third, the Lady Harvesters added three runs on a walk, two singles and a double to extend their lead to 7-1.

Dumas scored twice in the top of the fourth without collecting a hit. A leadoff walk and a throwing error on a bunted ball allowed two Dumas batters to reach and later score before the side was retired.

Pampa added a run in the bottom of the fourth, stretching its lead to 8-3.

In the fifth, Dumas got its second hit of the contest, again off the bat of King, who golf-stroked a low inside pitch into right field near the foul line. A hustling Lisa Dwight held King to a single on the play, raking to the ball and firing a strike to second base. The final out of the inning came on a 4-3 ground-out.

Pampa would add the necessary five runs to bring the contest to an end in its half of the fifth on just two hits. Dumas pitching began to falter as the first three batters for the Lady Harvesters would reach on base balls to load the bases. Pampa's Cassi Scott singled, driving in K. Clark from third. A late throw to the plate allowed Mandy Rains to score from second, then an errant throw by the Dumas catcher over the head of the third baseman allowed Cali Covalt and Scott to score on the play and clear the bases for Pampa. Pampa led 12-3 with no outs.

With Pampa needing just one run to end the game, Stephanie Cameron singled, stole second, then third and scored the game-ending run on a passed ball.

Kimberly Clark held Dumas just two hits while striking out eight and issuing two walks in the five-inning contest.

Lisa Kirkpatrick and Kristi Walling each made good defensive plays in Pampa's outfield.

Offensively for Pampa, Stephanie Clark was 3 for 3 at the plate with three singles. She was injured sliding into second in the fourth inning and didn't return until the fifth. K. Clark was 2 for 2 at the plate with a double and a single. Scott and Stephanie Cameron each added two singles.

The Lady Harvesters play Randall on Saturday at Amarillo's Southwest Park, Field No. 5. Gametime is set for 1 p.m. Pampa's next home game is March 20 against Frenship. Gametime is also 1 p.m.

Brookeland bolts into Class 1A boys' semis

AUSTIN (AP) — Brookeland bolted to a 20-6 first quarter lead and never looked back in rolling over Ponder 68-45 Thursday in the Class 1A semifinals of the boys state high school basketball tournament.

Brookeland (38-0), the only undefeated team in any class in the 20-team tournament field, advances to Saturday's final against defending champion Moulton (34-4). Moulton beat Paducah 56-45 in Thursday's other semifinal.

Ramon Williams scored 24 points for Brookeland and Darrell Garrett had 18 and Jarray Hunt 15.

Marcus Bobb scored 25 points and grabbed 12 rebounds for Ponder (30-8).

Led by Williams and 5-5 point guard Brandon Cooper, Brookeland's quicker lineup made easy work of Ponder, driving to the basket at will.

Brookeland scored 46 points in the paint and scored 18 points off 18 Ponder turnovers.

Brookeland also shut down every offensive option for Ponder other than Bobb, a 6-4 center.

Outside of Bobb's 8-of-15 shooting effort, which included three 3-pointers, Ponder was 6-of-38 shooting as a team as Brookeland challenged every shot. Brookeland maintained at least a 17-point lead throughout the second half and allowed Ponder no points on fast breaks.

With its easy drives to the basket, Brookeland shot 52 percent from the field.

Ponder's 45 points was just the second time this season the Lions scored fewer than 50 points. Ponder had capped the 80-point mark eight times this season.

With an enrollment of just 79, Brookeland is the smallest school in the state tournament.

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Church is serene before Joe D's private funeral

SAN FRANCISCO (AP) — Across the street, in Washington Square, scaffolding was built for TV cameras, and barriers were set up to block access to Sts. Peter and Paul Church for Joe DiMaggio's funeral.

In the church, where DiMaggio received his first communion and married his first wife, there was a feeling of serenity. And that's exactly the atmosphere the Yankee Clipper requested.

The church, whose twin steeples tower over the North Beach neighborhood in which DiMaggio spent most of his childhood, was to be closed to the public today as Father Armand Oliveri led the service for DiMaggio, who died Monday at his Florida home at the age of 84.

Oliveri, 79, who had known DiMaggio since the two grew up together in North Beach, said the service was a regular funeral Mass, including Psalm 23 as well as readings from both the Old and New Testaments.

Dominick DiMaggio, Joe's younger brother and a fellow major leaguer, was to give the eulogy. Oliveri said there would only be about 40 people attending the Mass.

"They said they wanted it to be family, and that was about it," Oliveri said. "Perhaps some close friends."

The ornate church, dark and solemn despite the light filtering through its stained-glass windows, has been visited by President Lyndon Johnson and Vice President Walter Mondale. It also was the site of funeral services for former San Francisco Mayor Joseph Alioto.

There were no indications at the church entrance Wednesday that a dignitary was about to be eulogized there. There was no mention of DiMaggio on a bulletin board announcing the times for Masses in English, Italian and Chinese.

Inside Sts. Peter and Paul, secretary Aurora Piazza leafed through a church book to a two-page spread of DiMaggio and actress Dorothy Arnold from their wedding on Nov. 19, 1939. Piazza, who grew up in North Beach, waited

outside the church on that autumn day 60 years ago to catch a glimpse of the newlyweds.

Church organist Lola Simi, who will be joined by two singers for the funeral service, was preparing "Amazing Grace" and Schubert's "Ave Maria" among five musical works requested by the DiMaggio family.

DiMaggio's estranged son, Joseph Paul DiMaggio Jr., was to be one of the pallbearers carrying the casket from the church after the service. The funeral procession was set to pass DiMaggio's former home on Beach Street on its way to Holy Cross Cemetery in nearby Colma.

Joe Jr., who had not talked with his dad in two years, was DiMaggio's only child. His mother was Dorothy Arnold, whom DiMaggio divorced in 1943. DiMaggio wed Marilyn Monroe in 1954 and they divorced later that year.

Morris Engelberg, DiMaggio's close friend and attorney, said the Hall of Famer wanted a private religious service and that his family was determined to follow his wishes. That meant excluding people such as Yankees owner George Steinbrenner.

Yankees spokesman Rick Cerrone disputed that Steinbrenner wasn't invited, saying the Yankees owner was asked to accompany the family to the West Coast. Cerrone said Steinbrenner declined the invitation because he didn't want an exception to the guest list made in his case.

"If there was one more person outside the family to be there, Joe would have wanted George Steinbrenner," Engelberg said Wednesday. "He really loved George, and said he was one of the most humane people he knew. I agree. But the family had to say, and reluctantly so, no one else."

In addition to DiMaggio's son, other pallbearers were Roger Stein and James Hamra, the husbands of DiMaggio's two granddaughters; Joseph DiMaggio, son of the ballplayer's late brother, Mike; Joe Nacchio, a friend of DiMaggio's for 59 years, and Engelberg.

UIL moving teams to Dist. 10

STEPHENVILLE, Texas (AP) — The University Interscholastic League is moving Crowley and North Crowley to District 10 effective with the 2000-2001 school year.

Art Briles, Stephenville High School athletic director, said he learned of the Crowley systems' move from District 6-4A on Wednesday in a fax from the district's director. The decision means that Stephenville will not have to contend with a nine-

team district next year. "It is going to allow each of our sports to be in a seven-team district and enhance their chances of making the playoffs," Briles told the Stephenville Empire Tribune.

Last fall, the seven-team concept for all sports was not the cause because of a UIL ruling that moved North Crowley from 3A to 4A status and the addition of Crowley because of the regular UIL realignment.

Scoreboard

COLLEGE BASKETBALL		NCAA Basketball Tournament		At A Glance	
All Times EST					
EAST REGIONAL					
First Round					
Friday, March 12					
At Charlotte Coliseum					
Charlotte, N.C.					
Tennessee (20-9) vs. Delaware (25-6), 12:25 p.m.					
Wisconsin (22-9) vs. Southwest Missouri State (20-10), 30 minutes after previous game					
Duke (32-1) vs. Florida A&M (12-18), 7:40 p.m.					
College of Charleston (28-2) vs. Tulsa (22-9), 30 minutes after previous game					
At The FleetCenter					
Boston					
Cincinnati (26-5) vs. George Mason (19-10), 12:15 p.m.					
Temple (21-10) vs. Kent (23-6), 30 minutes after previous game					
Miami (22-8) vs. Lafayette (22-7), 7:40 p.m.					
Texas (19-12) vs. Purdue (19-12), 30 minutes after previous game					
SOUTH REGIONAL					
First Round					
Thursday, March 11					
At The RCA Dome					
Indianapolis					
Syracuse (21-11) vs. Oklahoma State (22-10), 12:25 p.m.					
After previous game					
Winnipeg (21-7) vs. Winthrop (21-7), 30 minutes after previous game					
Ohio State (23-8) vs. Murray State (27-5), 7:40 p.m.					
UCLA (22-8) vs. Detroit (24-5), 30 minutes after previous game					
At Orlando Arena					
Orlando, Fla.					
Maryland (26-5) vs. Valparaiso (23-8), 12:20 p.m.					
Louisville (19-10) vs. Creighton (21-8), 30 minutes after previous game					
St. John's (25-8) vs. Stanford (24-5), 7:40 p.m.					
Indiana (22-8) vs. George Washington (20-8), 30 minutes after previous game					
MIDWEST REGIONAL					
First Round					
Friday, March 12					
At The Bradley Center					
Milwaukee					
North Carolina Charlotte (22-10) vs. Rhode Island (20-12), 12:30 p.m.					
After previous game					
Michigan State (23-4) vs. Mount St. Mary's, Md. (15-14), 7:55 p.m.					
Villanova (21-10) vs. Mississippi (19-12), 30 minutes after previous game					
At The Superdome					
New Orleans					
Utah (27-4) vs. Arkansas State (18-11), 12:30 p.m.					
Washington (17-11) vs. Miami, Ohio (22-7), 30 minutes after previous game					
Kansas (22-9) vs. Evansville (23-9), 7:50 p.m.					
Kentucky (25-8) vs. New Mexico State (23-9), 30 minutes after previous game					
WEST REGIONAL					
First Round					
Thursday, March 11					
At McNichols Arena					
Denver					
Iowa (18-9) vs. Alabama-Birmingham (20-11), 12:40 p.m.					
Arkansas (22-10) vs. Siena (25-5), 30 minutes after previous game					
Missouri (20-8) vs. New Mexico (24-8), 7:50 p.m.					
Connecticut (28-2) vs. Texas-San Antonio (18-10), 30 minutes after previous game					
At Key Arena					
Seattle					
Minnesota (17-10) vs. Gonzaga (25-6), 2:42 p.m.					
Stanford (25-6) vs. Alcorn State (23-6), 30 minutes after previous game					
Florida (20-8) vs. Pennsylvania (21-5), 7:55 p.m.					
North Carolina (24-9) vs. Weber State (24-7), 30 minutes after previous game					
Women's NCAA Basketball					
Tournament At A Glance					
All Times EST					
EAST REGIONAL					
First Round					
Friday, March 12					
At ODU Fieldhouse					
Norfolk, Va.					
Stanford (18-11) vs. Maine (23-6), 5:30 p.m.					
Tennessee Tech (21-8) vs. Old Dominion (26-3), 30 minutes after previous game					
Saturday, March 13					
At Thompson-Boling Arena					
Knoxville, Tenn.					
Boston College (21-7) vs. Ohio State (17-11), 6:45 p.m.					
Appalachian State (14-14) vs. Tennessee (28-2), 9:30 p.m.					
At Caseell Coliseum					
St. Louis, Mo.					
St. Peter's (25-5) vs. Virginia Tech (26-2), 6:30 p.m.					
Auburn (19-8) vs. Texas (16-11), 9 p.m.					
At Cameron Indoor Stadium					
Durham, N.C.					
Tulane (24-5) vs. St. Joseph's, Pa. (22-7), 6 p.m.					
Holy Cross (21-7) vs. Duke (24-8), 30 minutes following first game					
MIDWEST REGIONAL					
First Round					
Friday, March 12					
At Gamp Pavilion					
Storrs, Conn.					
St. Francis, Pa. (18-11) vs. Connecticut (27-4), 6 p.m.					
Xavier (23-8) vs. Florida International (23-6), 30 minutes following first game					
At Hilton Coliseum					
Ames, Iowa					
Oregon (24-6) vs. Cincinnati (22-8), 7 p.m.					
Siena (22-9) vs. Iowa State (22-7), 30 minutes following first game					
At Littlejohn Coliseum					
Clemson, S.C.					
Illinois (18-11) vs. Louisville (21-10), 5:30 p.m.					
Florida A&M (18-11) vs. Clemson (24-5), 30 minutes following first game					
Saturday, March 13					
At Stegeman Coliseum					
Athens, Ga.					
Toledo (25-5) vs. Southern Methodist (19-10), 6 p.m.					
Liberty (21-7) vs. Georgia (23-6), 30 minutes following first game					
MIDWEST REGIONAL					
First Round					
Friday, March 12					
At Scherago Auditorium					
Chapel Hill, N.C.					
Alabama (19-10) vs. Grambling (25-4), 6 p.m.					
Northwestern (22-7) vs. North Carolina (26-7), 30 minutes following first game					
At Louis Brown Athletic Center					
Chicago, Ill.					
Arizona (17-10) vs. Florida (19-13), 6 p.m.					
Dartmouth (19-8) vs. Rutgers (26-5), 30 minutes following first game					
Saturday, March 13					
At Mackey Arena					
Iowa State (21-7) vs. Virginia (20-8), 7 p.m.					
Central Florida (20-9) vs. Louisiana Tech (26-2), 30 minutes following first game					
At Moby Arena					
Fort Collins, Colo.					
Southwest Missouri State (24-6) vs. UC Santa Barbara (26-3), 9:15 p.m.					
Cal State Northridge (21-7) vs. Colorado State (31-2), 12 mid.					
Saturday, March 13					
At Pete Maravich Assembly Center					
Baton Rouge, La.					
Notre Dame (25-4) vs. St. Mary's, Calif. (26-6), 7 p.m.					
Evansville (19-10) vs. Louisiana State (23-7), 30 minutes after first game					
At Pauley Pavilion					
Los Angeles					
Kentucky (20-10) vs. Nebraska (21-11), 9:15 p.m.					
Wisconsin-Green Bay (19-9) vs. UCLA (23-7), 12 mid.					
TRANSACTIONS					
Wednesday Sports Transactions					
BASEBALL					
American League					
ANAHIM ANGELS—Options INF Nelson Castro to Erie of the New York-Penn League; and RHP Mark Hamter, RHP Ramon Ortiz and C Bret Henghill to Gene Autry Park for work purposes. Reassigned RHP Mike Bovee, RHP Mike Butcher, RHP Brian Cooper, RHP Seth Elberton, RHP Lou Pote, RHP Keith Troutman and C Fausto Tejero to their minor-league camp.					
CHICAGO WHITE SOX—Options RHP Lorenzo Barcelo to Birmingham of the Southern League; and RHP Dwayne Jacobs to Winston-Salem of the Carolina League. Reassigned P Josh Fogg, P Kyle Kane and OF Aaron Rowand to their minor-league camp.					
OAKLAND ATHLETICS—Agreed to terms with OF Ben Grieve on a one-year contract.					
TORONTO BLUE JAYS—Reassigned 2B Brent Abernathy, LHP John Bale, RHP Leo Estrada, C Joe Lawrence, SS Felipe Lopez, INF Mike Peoples, LHP Ben Van Ryn, OF Vernon Wells Jr. and LHP Clayton Andrews to their minor-league camp.					
National League					
NEW YORK METS—Announced a three-year					
Player development contract extension with Capital City of the South Atlantic League.					
PITTSBURGH PIRATES—Promoted Nello Bites to vice president of special events.					
BASKETBALL					
National Basketball Association					
CHARLOTTE HORNETS—Traded G Gian Ricci, F J.R. Reid and G B.J. Armstrong to the Los Angeles Lakers for G Eddie Jones and F Elden Campbell. Waived F Joe Wolf. Signed F Travis Williams to a 10-day contract.					
CLEVELAND CAVALIERS—Waived G Mitchell Butler and F Antonio Lang. Signed G Earl Boykins to a 10-day contract.					
DETROIT PISTONS—Activated F Korlone Young from the injured list.					
LOS ANGELES CLIPPERS—Placed G Sherman Douglas and F Brian Skinner on the injured list. Activated C Michael Olowokandi and G Poch Richardson from the injured list.					
LOS ANGELES LAKERS—Waived F Corie Blount and G B.J. Armstrong. Activated F Ruben Patterson from the injured list.					
NEW JERSEY NETS—Waived G Doug Overton.					
SACRAMENTO KINGS—Waived F Ray Owens.					
FOOTBALL					
National Football League					
BALTIMORE RAVENS—Signed TE Aaron Pierce to a two-year contract.					
GREEN BAY PACKERS—Signed LB Toran James.					
JACKSONVILLE JAGUARS—Re-signed DT Jose White, S Blaine McElmury, OL Mark Nori and OL Todd Fordham.					
KANSAS CITY CHIEFS—Signed LB Lamont Jordan to a two-year contract.					
PITTSBURGH STEELERS—Re-signed FB Jon Wiman to a three-year contract.					
HOCKEY					
National Hockey League					
BUFFALO SABRES—Recalled D Jean-Luc Holmquest to the AHL.					
DALLAS STARS—Signed RW Blake Sloan to a one-year contract. Waived D-LW Dan Keczmer.					
MONTREAL CANADIENS—Traded RW Mark Recchi to the Philadelphia Flyers for RW Dainius Zubrus and two future draft picks.					
SACRAMENTO KINGS—Waived G Jimmy Wake.					
ST. LOUIS BLUES—Assigned G Rich Parent to Worcester of the AHL.					
VANCOUVER CANUCKS—Assigned G Corey Hirsch to Syracuse of the AHL.					
PRO BASKETBALL					
National Basketball Association					
At A Glance					
All Times EST					
EASTERN CONFERENCE					
Atlantic Division					
W L Pct GB					
Miami 14 5 .737 —					
Orlando 14 6 .700 1/2					
Philadelphia 11 8 .579 3					
New York 8 5 .562 3 1/2					
Boston 8 10 .444 5 1/2					
Detroit 7 9 .438 5 1/2					
New Jersey 3 15 .167 10 1/2					
Central Division					
Indiana 13 5 .722 —					
Houston 11 8 .579 1 1/2					
Atlanta 9 9 .500 4					
Cleveland 8 9 .471 4 1/2					
Toronto 6 10 .375 6					
Charlotte 5 12 .294 7 1/2					
Chicago 5 13 .278 8					
WESTERN CONFERENCE					
Midwest Division					
W L Pct GB					
Utah 14 4 .778 —					
Minnesota 12 6 .667 2					
San Antonio 11 8 .579 3 1/2					
Dallas 6 14 .300 9					
Denver 5 14 .263 9 1/2					
Vancouver 4 15 .211 10 1/2					
Pacific Division					
W L Pct GB					
LA Lakers 15 6 .714 1 1/2					
Phoenix 10 9 .526 5 1/2					
Seattle 9 9 .500 6					
Sacramento 9 10 .474 6 1/2					
Golden State 8 10 .444 7					
LA Clippers 0 17 .000 14 1/2					
Tuesday's Games					
Milwaukee 87, New York 86					
Charlotte 105, Boston 87					
Minnesota 85, Seattle 84					
Houston 84, Denver 75					
Chicago 103, New Jersey 87					
Phoenix 103, Dallas 91					
Utah 88, Cleveland 75					
Portland 103, Sacramento 98					
Golden State 92, Vancouver 82					
LA Lakers 103, LA Clippers 99					
Philadelphia 85, Charlotte 70					
Indiana 85, New Jersey 82					
Washington 87, Detroit 87					
Miami 88, Atlanta 87					
Milwaukee 101, Seattle 97					
San Antonio 81, Orlando 79					
Cleveland 88, Phoenix 73					
LA Lakers 84, LA Clippers 76					
Thursday's Games					
Boston at Atlanta, 7:30 p.m.					
Toronto at Miami, 7:30 p.m.					
Washington at New York, 7:30 p.m.					
Seattle at Chicago, 8:30 p.m.					
Vancouver at Houston, 8:30 p.m.					
Orlando at Dallas, 8:30 p.m.					
Denver at Utah, 9 p.m.					
Sacramento at LA Clippers, 10:30 p.m.					
Minnesota at Golden State, 10:30 p.m.					
Friday's Games					
New Jersey at Philadelphia, 7 p.m.					
Milwaukee at Indiana, 7 p.m.					
Charlotte at Washington, 7 p.m.					
Boston at Detroit, 8 p.m.					
New York at Chicago, 8:30 p.m.					
San Antonio at Phoenix, 9 p.m.					
Utah at Portland, 10 p.m.					
Golden State at LA Lakers, 10:30 p.m.					
Minnesota at Sacramento, 10:30 p.m.					
HOCKEY					
National Hockey League					
At A Glance					
All Times EST					
EASTERN CONFERENCE					
Atlantic Division					
W L T Pts GF GA					
New Jersey 36 21 8 80 194 163					
Philadelphia 30 19 16 76 194 152					
Pittsburgh 33 22 9 76 199 177					
NY Rangers 28 22 8 64 181 180					
N.Y. Islanders 19 38 9 47 154 189					
Northwest Division					
W L T Pts GF GA					
Ottawa 38 18 8 84 194 134					
Toronto 38 24 5 77 200 188					
Buffalo 28 22 13 71 170 143					
Boston 28 26 10 66 165 148					
Montreal 25 31 9 59 155 174					
Southeast Division					
W L T Pts GF GA					
Carolina 28 24 13 71 170 181					
Florida 23 34 7 63 185 172					
Washington 27 32 5 59 169 171					
Tampa Bay 15 44 6 35 137 239					
WESTERN CONFERENCE					
Central Division					
W L T Pts GF GA					
Detroit 32 27 6 70 193 167					
St. Louis 28 27 10 62 177 167					
Nashville 22 37 6 50 153 213					
Chicago 19 37 9 47 147 200					
Northwest Division					
W L T Pts GF GA					
Colorado 33 22 8 74 180 181					
Edmonton 25 30 10 60 182 175					
Calgary 24 30 10 58 172 182					
Vancouver 19 35 11 49 158 204					
Pacific Division					
W L T Pts GF GA					
Dallas 41 19 10 82 188 129					
Phoenix 31 23 10 72 159 153					
Anaheim 30 25 10 70 176 158					
San Jose 23 28 14 60 145 154					
Los Angeles 24 36 5 53 149 174					
Tuesday's Games					
Boston 2, Florida 0					
Colorado 3, Washington 2, OT					
Toronto 6, Tampa Bay 1					
Philadelphia 2, N.Y. Islanders 2, tie					
New Jersey 3, Pittsburgh 2					
Calgary 7, St. Louis 4					
Los Angeles 4, Detroit 2					
San Jose 4, Phoenix 2					
Wednesday's Games					
Pittsburgh 3, Carolina 2, OT					
Ottawa 3, N.Y. Rangers 0					
Chicago 5, Nashville 2					
Dallas 7, Edmonton 4					
Vancouver 4, Anaheim 4, tie					
Thursday's Games					
Tampa Bay at Buffalo, 7 p.m.					
Florida at Washington, 7 p.m.					
Toronto at N.Y. Islanders, 7:30 p.m.					
Colorado at Philadelphia, 7:30 p.m.					
Montreal at St. Louis, 8 p.m.					
Vancouver at Phoenix, 9 p.m.					
Friday's Games					
Calgary at Carolina, 7 p.m.					
Boston at N.Y. Rangers, 7:30 p.m.					
Chicago at Nashville, 7:30 p.m.					
Anaheim at Dallas, 8 p.m.					
Detroit at San Jose, 10:30 p.m.					
HIGH SCHOOL BASKETBALL					
Class 1A Semifinal					
Moulton 56, Paducah 45					

New help for overpopulated Snow Geese

MEMPHIS, Tenn. — New regulations published recently by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS) are being called a giant step toward reducing mid-continent populations of snow geese.

Midwestern and Southern states will have the option of allowing hunters to use electronic calls and unplugged shotguns for the remainder of this year's snow goose seasons, after all other waterfowl and crane seasons

have been closed. These states will also have the option of allowing hunting to control snow goose populations after traditional hunting seasons have closed. Researchers estimate that snow goose numbers in the mid-continent flock have tripled since the 1960's to as many as six million because of agricultural and other land-use changes to their wintering and migrating habitats. There are so many geese



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Red Cross proclamation



(Pampa News photo by Jeff West)
Mayor Bob Neslage signed a proclamation declaring March as Red Cross Month in Pampa. Observing is Gray County Red Cross Director Stephanie Guest.

New fighting breaks out in Kosovo after Holbrooke peace talks fail

BELGRADE, Yugoslavia (AP) — New fighting broke out in southern Kosovo today, a day after a top U.S. envoy failed to persuade Yugoslav President Slobodan Milosevic to accept a Western-backed settlement for the province.

Yugoslav and Serbian forces descended on the southwest town of Prizren and new skirmishes were reported.

"There has been some fighting, and there might be more coming," Dieter Wolf, a monitor with the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe said, speaking via telephone from the town. There were no immediate details on the buildup and intensity of combat.

The new fighting — and U.S. envoy Richard Holbrooke's failure to convince Milosevic to accept foreign troops in the rebellious province in the Yugoslav republic of Serbia — cast doubt on the chances of success at new peace talks scheduled for Monday in France.

Some 2,000 people have been killed and hundreds of thousands driven from their homes in a year of fighting in Kosovo.

Holbrooke was to return to Washington today to brief the Clinton administration on the standoff. It was unclear whether he would be returning to Belgrade.

A NATO threat to strike Yugoslav and Serbian targets stands in case the ethnic Albanians sign a peace plan and Milosevic does not. But Holbrooke was low-key today ahead of a meeting in Belgrade with ambassadors of the six-nation Contact Group.

"We don't like to go around rattling rockets and making threatening gestures," he said. "Our positions are clear and President Milosevic knows them, and we will be in continuing contact with him."

He suggested the continued

fighting was not a direct threat to the upcoming talks, saying: "That's fairly traditional preceding negotiations and during them."

International mediation efforts were to continue today with Russian Foreign Minister Igor Ivanov.

It was uncertain whether Russia, despite its close ties to the Serbs, would be more successful in convincing Milosevic. Russia has consistently maintained that any peace agreement respect Yugoslav sovereignty.

Reporting from Moscow, the Interfax news agency cited Ivanov as saying the Kosovo conflict must be resolved peacefully — effectively repeating Russian opposition to the NATO threat of airstrikes against Serb and Yugoslav positions.

Russia has consistently taken

Milosevic's side in the conflict. Ivanov has said that Russia would consider sending peacekeeping troops to Kosovo, but repeated Wednesday that it would only do so with Milosevic's consent.

Today's fighting follows violence Wednesday that left at least four villages in flames and sent hundreds of ethnic Albanians fleeing the border area near Macedonia.

A moderate ethnic Albanian politician, Fehmi Agani, said the Kosovo Albanians may not even show up for Monday's peace talks unless the Serbs appear ready to sign on.

European Union envoy Wolfgang Petrisch said the talks would go ahead, "concentrating on the implementation issue" — shorthand for NATO deployment to police the peace agreement.

JASON Project



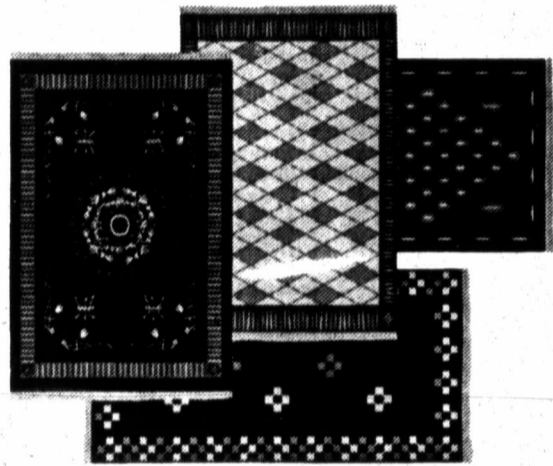
(photo by Rik Andersen)

Cody Planteen, left, and Teryn Stowers, both eighth-graders at Pampa Middle School, perform an experiment recently while attending the JASON Project at West Texas A&M University in Canyon. The project utilizes advanced you-are-there telecommunications technologies so students can participate in expeditions in remote rain forests without leaving the regions in which they live.

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